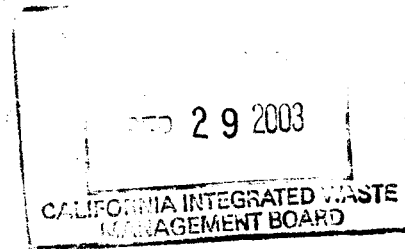




Gold Ridge Resource Conservation District

2020 Barlow Lane - Sebastopol, CA 95472 - Phone (707) 823-4662 - Fax (707) 823-4608

September 18, 2003



Mr. Stephen Posner, IWMS
Waste Tire Management Branch
California Integrated Waste Management Board
P O Box 4025
Sacramento, CA 95812-4025

Dear Mr. Posner,

On behalf of Ernest Briggs regarding the tires on his property, the Gold Ridge Resource Conservation District (GRRCD) would like to clarify some points about this matter. These tires were placed in the eroded banks on his property under the recommendation and supervision of the Soil Conservation Service in the 1970's. This practice was accepted as an efficient and practical way to prevent the erosion of valuable topsoil from the property. The tires were placed during the same time as others that were placed in the Southern Sonoma County Resource Conservation District, also under the same supervision of the Soil Conservation Service. The Briggs family has owned the property for five generations dating back to the late 1800's. Ezira Briggs sat on the RCD board for 34 years working with other local landowners to provide assistance to maintain the natural resources on there property.

The only reason the Briggs property has been placed in the Category 3 section, is because it is in a different Resource Conservation District (RCD). These districts are adjoining and are under the same Soil Conservation Jurisdiction. Since the tires were placed for the same reasons in both RCD Districts, the GRRCD would like to have the Briggs tire site be moved into the Category 1 definition. The Briggs family has been attending all of the local meetings and is going through all of the steps that the Category 1 site members are going through.

The GRRCD and the Briggs family would like to ask you to consider placing the site into the Category 1 status so they can receive some assistance in remanding the situation. The Briggs family makes their living off of the cattle that graze the ranch and are not prepared for the economic hardships this situation will cause them if they do not get some assistance. The GRRCD is willing to assist on the permit process and the environmental enhancement after the tires are removed.

We thank you for working with us to find a solution for this landowner.

Sincerely,


Don Petersen
President, GRRCD

Cc: Bob Swift, Sonoma County Dept. of Health Services
H. James Lee, Deputy Director, CIWMB, Special Waste Division
Steven Levine, Esq. CIWMB